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NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

WASHINGTON, D C. 20505

IC/83/3365
6 April 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM: Walter Elder
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Warning and Critical Intelligence

1. In considering the drafts on critical intelligence, it occurs to me that if you have a new mandate for your warning responsibilities which will put you firmly in charge of critical intelligence handling, you should look first to a revision of the Warning directive.

2. The details on the handling of critical intelligence need not be in the new overall directive; need not be the subject of a separate DCID; and could be wrapped up in a Part II attachment to the basic warning charter.

3. If your mandate is clear, then a revised warning directive should do what all the other revised DCID's do; - establish the activity; establish who has primary responsibilities; fix the responsibilities of Community members, all in broad charter language. The details can be relegated to an annex.

4. In the case of critical intelligence, we'll need a delegation of authority from the NSC. The DCI can't order the Secretary of Defense around in a DCID.

5. Such an approach should be the first item on our agenda when we get together. I'm still working on a visit to talk with you

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Walter Elder

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